S3465-94

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR

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DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

October 1993

The Labor Market Information Newsletter on Maine Economic Activity

Success Is More Than Surviving

A one-day conference featuring businesses in New England

Twenty successful New England companies will be showcased at the 1994 Business Connections Conference at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine. Representatives from Hussey Seating, CIANBRO, Sunday River Ski Resort, Bath Iron Works, Duck Trap River Fish Farm, Willis Corroon Corporation, Dunlap Corporation, New Hampshire Office of Business & Industry Development and a wide variety of other businesses will describe methods and approaches that are providing themselves in practice.

The conference is delighted to provide useful information that will support business development and assist participants to build a competitive edge. Sponsored by the University of Southern Maine, this annual one-day conference draws people from across the state from manufacturing, service, public sector, and not-for profit organizations.

For a conference brochure telephone USM Continuing Education for Business at (207) 780-5910.

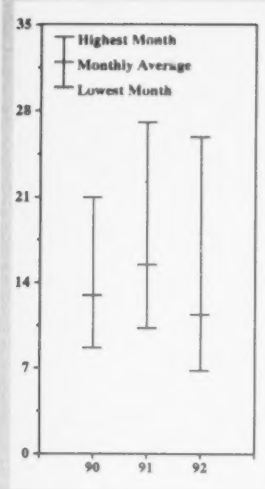
Registration fee is $99
discount for multiple attendees

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS 94

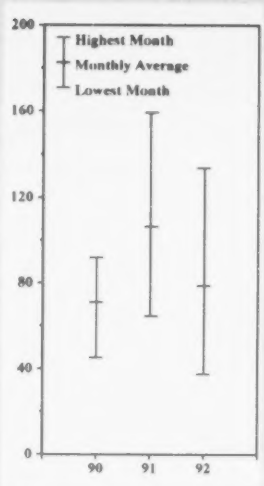
Holiday Inn By The Bay
Portland, Maine

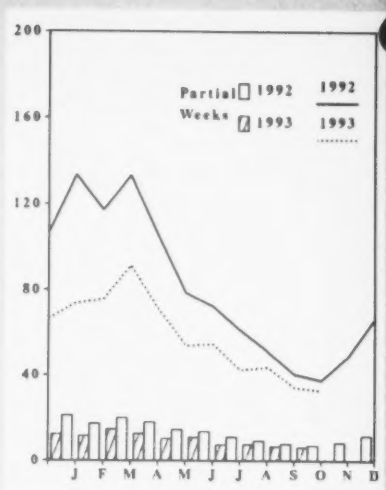
Wednesday, February 9, 1994
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

UI Initial Claims
in Thousands



UI Intrastate Weeks Claimed
in Thousands





Eligible Labor Surplus Areas for Bidding on Federal Contracts

The U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, recently released a list of labor surplus areas. The list, which became effective October 1, 1993 and remains in effect through September 30, 1994, contains the counties of Aroostook, Oxford, Piscataquis, Somerset, Waldo, and Washington. It also contains the City of Lewiston and the Balance of Androscoggin County.

Employers located in labor surplus areas can be given preference in bidding on Federal procurement contracts.

The civil jurisdiction is classified as a labor surplus area when its average unemployment rate was at least 20 percent above the average unemployment rate for all states (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) during the previous two calendar years.

The national average unemployment rate during the period of January 1991 through December 1992 was 7.1 percent. Therefore, the qualifying rate for labor surplus area classification is 8.5 percent (7.1 percent times 1.20).

Employers located in labor surplus areas can be given preference in bidding on Federal procurement contracts. The purpose in providing such preference is to help direct government procurement dollars into areas where people are in the most severe economic need, i.e., areas with the highest rates of unemployment.

In addition to the basic labor surplus area classification criteria described, the regulations permit the U.S. Department of Labor to waive these criteria when an area's unemployment increases significantly due to "exceptional circumstances." Such circumstances result from major plant closings or cutbacks, contract cancellations, or such catastrophic events as fires, floods, and other major disasters.

In order for an area to be classified as an exception, a petition must be received from a State Employment Security Agency (SESA) indicating that the civil jurisdiction has had an increase in unemployment which is not seasonal and which was not reflected in the previous two-year reference period used in preparation of the annual listing. The SESAs are responsible for initiating the preparation and submittal of these petitions.

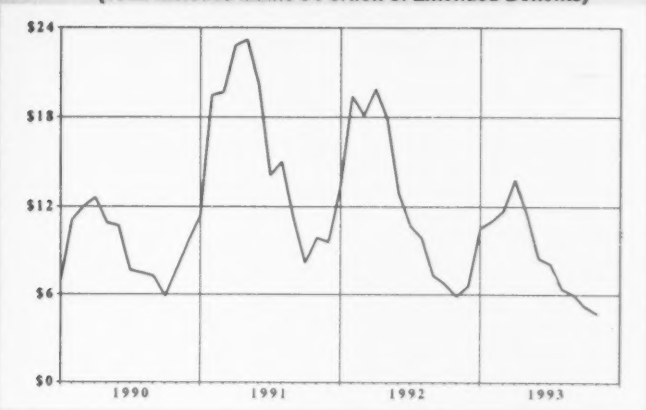
Selected Employment Security Activities

MAINE JOB SERVICE

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Payments

In Millions

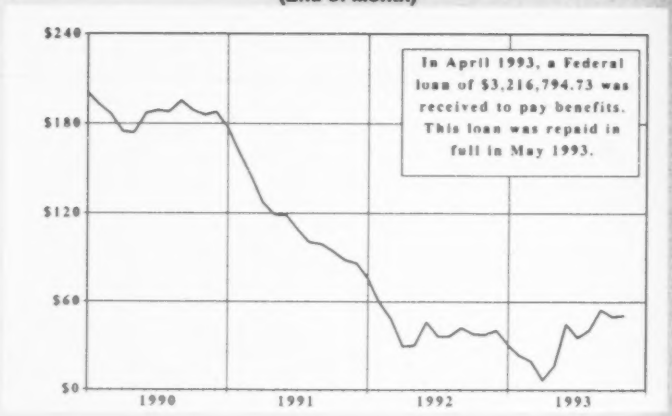
(Total Includes Maine's Portion of Extended Benefits)



Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance

In Millions

(End of Month)



Earnings and Workweek of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS This Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS Last Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS Year Ago	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS This Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS Last Month	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS Year Ago	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS This Month	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS Last Month	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS Year Ago	ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS 1990	ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS 1991	ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS 1992
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	$483.62	$484.38	$463.49	41.3	41.4	40.8	$11.71	$11.70	$11.36	$10.58	$11.08	$11.38
Durable Goods	475.94	475.17	453.70	41.1	41.5	40.8	11.58	11.45	11.12	10.20	10.61	11.14
Lumber and Wood Products	383.54	387.32	379.14	40.5	40.9	40.9	9.47	9.47	9.27	9.10	8.97	9.25
Primary and Fabricated Metals	519.34	520.30	465.76	46.0	45.6	44.4	11.29	11.41	10.49	9.98	10.18	10.45
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	585.16	580.26	561.04	42.9	43.4	42.6	13.64	13.37	13.17	11.63	12.43	12.82
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	427.24	430.61	404.81	41.2	42.3	40.2	10.37	10.18	10.07	9.69	9.91	10.02
Transportation Equipment	596.04	583.20	551.42	40.3	40.0	39.9	14.79	14.58	13.82	11.68	12.55	14.09
Other Durable Goods	361.30	360.12	366.51	39.4	40.6	40.1	9.17	8.87	9.14	8.11	8.57	8.86
Nondurable Goods	488.93	491.88	470.49	41.4	41.3	40.7	11.81	11.91	11.56	10.93	11.48	11.57
Food and Kindred Products	339.64	340.94	337.59	37.2	35.7	36.3	9.13	9.55	9.30	8.56	8.76	9.15
Textile Mill Products	415.34	409.08	378.33	43.4	41.7	40.9	9.57	9.81	9.25	8.82	8.82	9.03
Apparel and Other Textile Products	305.42	296.48	312.68	37.8	37.2	36.7	8.08	7.97	8.52	7.38	7.28	7.65
Paper and Allied Products	758.73	765.78	723.79	44.5	44.6	44.9	17.05	17.17	16.12	15.16	16.06	16.25
Leather and Leather Products	318.77	322.73	301.80	39.5	40.8	39.4	8.07	7.91	7.66	7.44	7.82	7.92
Other Nondurable Goods	423.54	422.09	403.76	41.2	41.3	39.2	10.28	10.22	10.30	9.62	9.85	10.07
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	420.82	423.20	397.76	39.7	40.0	38.1	10.60	10.58	10.44	10.63	10.45	10.55
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	415.25	429.27	377.87	43.3	44.3	41.8	9.59	9.69	9.04	9.26	9.33	9.53

Female Labor Force in Maine

in Thousands

ITEM[1/]	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Labor Force	315.6	317.1	309.8
Unemployment	18.7	17.3	15.7
(Percent)	5.9%	5.5%	5.1%
Resident Employed	296.9	299.8	294.1

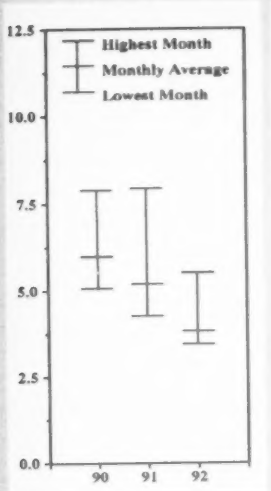
1/ Current figures preliminary; last month and year ago figures revised.
Source: Female labor force estimates are developed by, and solely the responsibility of, the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research.

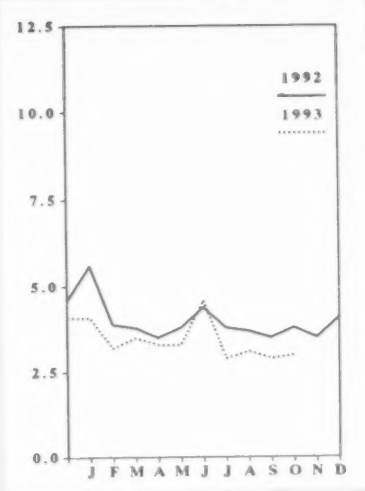
U.S. Consumer Price Index

BASE PERIOD (1982-1984 = 100) All Items (CPI-U)	This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	Last Dec.
	145.7	145.1	141.8	141.9

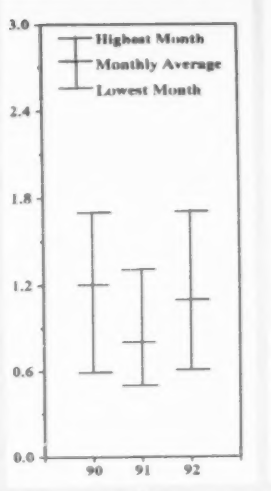
Percent Change for Past Month	+0.4%
Percent Change from Last December	+2.7%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.8%

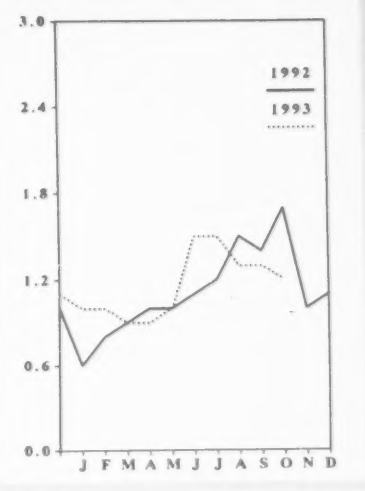
New Applications For Work
In Thousands





Nonfarm Placements
In Thousands
(Excludes Placements of Less than Three Days Duration)





Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment by Place of Work (in Thousands)

ITEM	STATEWIDE THIS MONTH	STATEWIDE LAST MONTH	STATEWIDE YEAR AGO	PORTLAND MSA THIS MONTH	PORTLAND MSA LAST MONTH	PORTLAND MSA YEAR AGO	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA THIS MONTH	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA LAST MONTH	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA YEAR AGO
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 1/	530.4	525.6	526.1	126.2	124.9	123.7	39.8	38.5	38.5
Goods Producing	117.3	117.1	116.9	18.9	19.1	18.7	9.8	9.9	9.8
Construction and Mining	23.9	24.3	24.1	5.7	5.7	5.6	1.5	1.6	1.7
Building Construction	5.7	5.6	5.8	1.2	1.2	1.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Special Trade Contractors	13.2	13.7	13.3	3.8	3.9	3.8	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manufacturing	93.4	92.8	92.8	13.2	13.4	13.1	8.3	8.3	8.1
Durable Goods	41.4	40.8	41.9	5.7	5.9	5.9	2.2	2.3	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	11.1	11.0	11.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.2	3.2	3.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	3.9	3.8	3.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Electronic and other Elect. Equip.	6.6	6.6	7.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
Transportation Equipment	12.2	11.9	12.9	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Durable Goods 2/	4.4	4.3	4.2	2.7	2.9	2.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nondurable Goods	52.0	52.0	50.9	7.5	7.5	7.2	6.1	6.0	5.9
Food and Kindred Products	6.9	6.8	6.7	2.0	2.0	1.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Textile Mill Products	5.4	5.5	5.0	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Apparel and Other Textile Products	3.2	3.2	3.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Paper and Allied Products	16.1	16.2	16.2	(d)	(d)	(d)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Printing and Publishing	5.3	5.3	5.2	1.6	1.5	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.1	3.0	2.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Leather and Leather Products	10.4	10.4	10.2	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.8	1.7	2.0
Footwear (except Rubber)	8.5	8.5	8.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Other Nondurable Goods 3/	1.6	1.6	1.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	4.3	4.3	3.9
Service Producing	413.1	408.5	409.2	107.3	105.8	105.0	30.0	28.6	28.7
Transportation and Public Utilities	20.8	20.9	21.7	5.7	5.6	5.7	1.4	1.3	1.3
Wholesale Trade	22.6	22.5	23.2	8.4	8.4	8.4	2.0	2.0	1.9
Retail Trade	111.8	111.0	111.3	31.5	30.2	29.3	8.7	8.1	8.4
General Merchandise Stores	11.9	11.6	12.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Food Stores	19.6	19.7	18.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Eating and Drinking Places	35.8	36.8	34.6	8.5	8.3	7.8	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	24.9	24.5	24.0	11.7	11.7	11.8	2.0	2.0	1.9
Banking	8.8	8.9	8.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	11.0	10.6	10.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Services	136.4	136.4	131.7	34.3	34.3	33.1	11.5	11.1	10.7
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	11.1	12.2	10.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Business Services	13.6	13.7	13.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Health Services	48.9	48.9	47.9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Federal Government	15.1	15.3	16.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
State Government	28.4	26.5	28.5	5.0	4.3	4.8	0.7	0.6	0.7
Local Government	53.1	51.4	52.5	8.6	9.2	9.8	3.4	3.2	3.5
Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

1/ Employment figures relate to full- and part-time wage and salary workers in pay periods including the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. 2/ Includes Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: Statewide - 25, 32, 38, 39; Portland - 24, 25, 32, 33, 34, 37, 38, 39. 3/ Includes SIC codes: Statewide - 28, 29; Portland - 20, 22, 23, 26, 30; Lewiston - 20, 22, 23, 26, 27. 4/ Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months. n/a - data not available in sufficient detail for publication. * Less than 50. (d) Nondisclosure item. Source: Nonfarm wage and salary employment by place of work and earnings, and workweek of production workers in manufacturing industries are developed by the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

AREA 1/	LABOR FORCE 2/ This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	RESIDENT EMPLOYED This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	UNEMPLOYMENT Number This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	UNEMPLOYMENT Percent of Labor Force This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
MAINE-STATEWIDE(000)	657.8	655.5	658.2	615.2	610.6	621.2	42.6	44.9	37.0	6.5	6.9	5.6
MAJOR LABOR MARKET												
Bangor MSA	49,100	47,700	47,500	46,500	45,000	45,400	2,600	2,700	2,000	5.3	5.7	4.3
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	44,900	43,900	44,400	41,500	39,900	41,200	3,400	4,000	3,200	7.5	9.1	7.1
Portland MSA	137,100	135,900	136,100	130,900	129,100	130,700	6,300	6,800	5,400	4.6	5.0	4.0
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA	142,100	142,200	138,400	136,100	135,900	131,300	6,000	5,300	7,100	4.2	3.8	5.1
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	36,740	36,380	37,740	34,550	34,110	35,900	2,190	2,270	1,840	5.9	6.2	4.9
Bath-Brunswick	31,380	30,550	32,860	30,010	29,040	31,610	1,370	1,510	1,250	4.4	4.9	3.8
Belfast	13,170	11,520	13,080	11,880	10,120	11,990	1,290	1,390	1,090	9.8	12.1	8.3
Biddeford	28,050	28,340	28,420	25,990	26,310	26,570	2,070	2,030	1,850	7.4	7.2	6.5
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	18,100	18,310	17,720	17,240	17,630	17,120	860	680	610	4.7	3.7	3.4
Calais-Eastport	16,420	16,360	16,180	14,580	14,330	14,790	1,840	2,030	1,390	11.2	12.4	8.6
Caribou-Presque Isle	22,360	23,890	23,320	20,050	21,200	21,160	2,310	2,690	2,150	10.3	11.3	9.2
Central Penobscot	3,600	3,480	3,510	3,290	3,130	3,280	310	360	230	8.7	10.2	6.5
Dover-Foxcroft	7,260	7,310	7,410	6,680	6,670	6,870	580	640	540	7.9	8.7	7.3
Ellsworth	28,230	29,020	28,560	26,660	27,430	27,170	1,570	1,590	1,390	5.6	5.5	4.9
Farmington	14,420	14,120	14,430	13,340	13,050	13,410	1,080	1,060	1,010	7.5	7.5	7.0
Fort Kent-Allagash	6,200	6,470	6,270	5,630	5,870	5,820	570	600	450	9.1	9.3	7.1
Greenville	1,230	1,330	1,330	1,140	1,270	1,220	90	70	110	7.2	5.1	8.4
Houlton	7,290	7,390	7,560	6,830	6,930	7,170	460	460	390	6.3	6.2	5.1
Kittery-York 3/	30,710	30,790	30,570	29,850	29,930	29,770	860	860	800	2.8	2.8	2.6
Lincoln-Howland	5,380	5,430	5,540	4,840	4,910	5,130	540	520	420	10.1	9.6	7.5
Livermore Falls	6,290	6,170	6,290	5,840	5,650	5,830	450	520	460	7.2	8.4	7.4
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,380	4,600	4,680	4,030	4,180	4,310	350	410	370	7.9	9.0	7.9
Millinocket-East Millinocket	4,140	4,260	4,190	3,770	3,870	3,890	370	400	300	9.0	9.4	7.3
Norway-Paris	13,340	13,280	12,850	12,030	12,060	11,870	1,300	1,220	980	9.8	9.2	7.6
Patten-Island Falls	2,930	3,000	3,120	2,680	2,700	2,860	250	300	260	8.5	10.1	8.2
Rockland	21,320	21,680	20,480	20,310	20,670	19,560	1,010	1,010	910	4.7	4.7	4.5
Rumford	8,960	9,310	9,310	8,140	8,500	8,610	820	810	700	9.1	8.7	7.5
Sanford	16,790	17,050	17,130	15,450	15,550	15,860	1,340	1,500	1,270	8.0	8.8	7.4
Sebago Lakes Region	13,520	13,110	13,830	12,600	12,300	13,070	920	810	750	6.8	6.2	5.4
Skowhegan	27,350	27,520	26,240	24,860	24,990	24,150	2,490	2,530	2,090	9.1	9.2	8.0
Southwest Penobscot	11,140	11,190	11,020	9,920	9,940	9,940	1,220	1,260	1,080	11.0	11.2	9.8
Waterville	26,090	26,180	26,620	24,220	24,290	24,920	1,870	1,890	1,700	7.2	7.2	6.4
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)												
Connecticut	n/a	n/a	1,797.5	n/a	n/a	1,670.0	n/a	n/a	127.6	n/a	n/a	7.1
Massachusetts	3,148.0	3,142.0	3,077.0	2,954.0	2,921.0	2,842.0	194.0	222.0	235.0	6.2	7.1	7.6
New Hampshire	646.6	642.6	637.0	608.8	606.1	592.0	37.8	36.5	45.0	5.9	5.7	7.1
Rhode Island	516.5	518.3	524.8	481.0	482.8	482.9	35.5	35.5	41.9	6.9	6.8	8.0
Vermont	329.5	323.0	321.5	317.4	310.1	305.4	12.1	12.9	16.2	3.7	4.0	5.0
NEW ENGLAND STATES (000)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UNITED STATES (000)	128,547	127,858	126,846	120,446	119,730	118,246	8,101	8,128	8,600	6.3	6.4	6.8

Footnotes

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas are by place of residence and are not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. Data are rounded for publishing purposes. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding. MSA - Metropolitan Statistical Area. n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing.

2/ Current estimates preliminary. Last month and year ago estimates revised.

3/ Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: These data are developed by the Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Mid-Month Insured Unemployment

ITEM	STATEWIDE This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	PORTLAND MSA This Month	Last Month	Year Ago	LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA This Month	Last Month	Year Ago
Number of continued-week claimants*	7,311	7,361	8,893	1,333	1,369	1,471	525	637	734

Continued-week claimants are less partials for week including the 12th of the month.

Civilian Labor Force and Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine

Seasonally Adjusted in Thousands

ITEM	1992			1993									
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct.
Civilian Labor Force 1/	660.6	663.7	659.9	662.0	654.0	657.4	652.1	652.6	652.6	647.1	654.8	654.7	660.4
Resident Employment	616.1	616.8	612.5	611.6	600.7	602.9	598.9	600.8	596.4	599.0	605.0	603.9	609.1
Unemployment	44.5	46.9	47.6	50.5	53.3	54.5	53.3	51.9	56.0	48.1	49.8	50.8	51.2
Percent of Labor Force	6.7	7.1	7.2	7.6	8.2	8.3	8.2	7.9	8.6	7.4	7.6	7.8	7.8
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment 2/	514.9	515.6	513.9	519.1	519.6	517.0	514.4	511.9	507.3	507.2	509.7	512.7	519.1
Construction	21.3	21.4	21.9	23.5	23.4	23.1	22.7	21.8	21.3	21.7	21.0	21.3	21.1
Manufacturing, Durable Goods	41.1	41.0	41.0	41.4	41.4	40.9	40.8	40.9	40.2	40.1	40.1	40.1	40.6
Manufacturing, Nondurable Goods	50.5	51.0	50.2	51.5	51.2	50.9	51.5	51.1	51.1	51.0	51.5	51.1	51.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	21.4	21.3	21.2	21.7	21.3	21.6	21.4	20.9	20.8	[illegible]	20.8	20.4	20.5
Wholesale Trade	23.1	23.0	22.9	22.5	22.5	22.4	22.6	22.5	22.0	[illegible]	21.9	22.2	22.5
Retail Trade	108.3	109.0	108.3	108.1	109.1	107.4	106.8	106.1	103.8	[illegible]	105.4	106.8	108.7
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	24.1	23.9	23.9	24.0	24.0	23.9	23.9	24.3	24.3	24.2	24.5	24.3	25.0
Services	130.1	130.3	130.0	131.4	131.2	130.9	30.1	129.9	129.7	130.3	130.5	132.9	134.8
Government	94.9	94.6	94.4	94.9	95.4	95.8	94.6	94.4	94.0	93.2	94.0	93.5	94.2

1/ Place of residence. 2/ Place of work.

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